Elder abuse task force announced

Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel joined with Supreme Court Justices Richard Bernstein and Megan Cavanagh, and others to announce the formation of the Michigan Elder Abuse Task Force.

"More than 73,000 older adults in Michigan are victims of elder abuse," said Nessel. "They experience physical abuse, financial exploitation, emotional abuse, or neglect. The symptoms and treatment of abuse against our most senior population are complex and demand a concerted effort by this state to tackle what is an often unrecognized and unreported social problem. That's why we have brought together dozens of different organizations to work collectively and collaboratively to tackle the challenge."

Elder abuse shares many of the dynamics of domestic abuse, including a vulnerable victim with emotional ties to the perpetrator, isolation from community resources and family support systems, and substantial underreporting as a result of fear, shame, humiliation, or misplaced affection.

Nessel urged Michigan residents to report any signs or concerns about elder abuse to her office, which has established an elder abuse hotline for anonymous tips: 800-24-ABUSE (800-242-2873) or online at www.mi.gov/elderabuse.

The state has initiated efforts to address these issues in the past, including a 1998 Supreme Court Task
SAVE THE DATE - May 15

Older Michiganders Day is Wednesday, May 15, in Lansing. Look for more information to come in future issues of Sixty Seconds.

Dementia Friends sessions

People with dementia sometimes need help going about their daily lives and to feel included in their communities. Dementia Friends works to give people an understanding of dementia, and the small things they can do to make a difference.

There are monthly Dementia Friends sessions offered in Muskegon, at Tanglewood Park, 560 Seminole Road, Norton Shores:

- April 19, 9-10 a.m.
- May 9, 3:30-4:30 p.m.
- June 4, 10-11 a.m.
- July 15, 1-2 p.m.
- August 13, 3-4 p.m.
- September 24, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

You can register for these, or future sessions: https://www.eventbrite.com/d/mi-muskegon/dementia-friends/.

Senior Resources audit, annual report available on website

Senior Resources of West Michigan received an unqualified (or clean) audit report from Plante Moran for Fiscal Year 2018. You can view the audit here: https://seniorresourceswmi.org/about/audit.

The FY18 annual report is also available on the website: https://seniorresourceswmi.org/annual-report/.

There is also an insert on the Muskegon County senior millage funding that flowed through Senior Resources as grants administrator.

Report shows older adults still struggling to meet basic needs

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Report shows older adults still struggling to meet basic needs
A new report from the Michigan Association of United Ways shows that many adults in the state, including about 40% of older adults, are struggling to meet their basic needs.

The "working poor," which United Ways refer to as ALICE (Asset-Limited, Income-Constrained, Employed), shows that many of Michigan's residents are still struggling to make ends meet.

From a story from Bridge, a nonpartisan, nonprofit news source:

"The increase in Michigan's ALICE households can be attributed in large part to those headed by seniors 65 and older, the report said. As of 2017, more than four in 10 senior households, 41 percent, could be considered ALICE. That's up by 17 percent from 2010. These residents are living and, in many cases, working longer."

You can read the entire Bridge article here: [https://www.bridgemi.com/public-sector/study-more-michiganders-struggle-afford-basic-needs](https://www.bridgemi.com/public-sector/study-more-michiganders-struggle-afford-basic-needs).